

## LOCAL MATTERS.

The Grand Jury and the Mysterious Memorial Presented in the City Court.—The special committee of the grand jury appointed to investigate the truth or untruth of certain charges made against the members of the city council, who were accused of official misconduct in a memorial presented some days since in the first branch of the city council, have made the following report to the grand jury:

"That they have caused the said paper to be brought before them and proceeded to examine the parties by whom the same was drawn up and signed. They find that of the named parties Mr. H. J. Russell, residing on the corner of Baltimore and Bond streets, is the only one whose name is in the directory or who can be found. Mr. Russell, upon being examined, testified under oath that he was the author of the memorial and professes to be a forgery, of which the committee are satisfied, and they are equally convinced that the names of George Williams (Lee street) and Thomas Johnson (Linen street), the remaining pretended signers, are not those of the persons for whom the committee are disposed to prosecute their impropriety further into the authorship of the memorial, which has not yet been ascertained, believing that private character and the interests of the public demand the exposure, and, so far as can be practicable, the punishment of the persons evidently implicated in making the records of public bodies the vehicles of malice and detraction."

"The committee are themselves gratified, and they are persuaded the public will hear with equal satisfaction that the great charges set forth in the forged paper are not well founded in fact. The most serious of these is the suggestion of the delinquency on the part of the sheriff of the city, Mr. John W. Davis, who, it is intimated, has failed to account for the fines imposed by the Criminal Court since 1846, to a very large amount, sufficient, indeed, as an alibi for the forged paper. The committee have examined in detail and with care the dockets of the court, the books, returns and vouchers of the sheriff, and find that there is not the remotest ground for any question of the integrity, fidelity, punctuality or diligence of the officer. He has done his duty, and has discharged the duties and other functions of his office as imposed on him by law, and, after having his accounts audited by the State Comptroller, has promptly paid over to the Treasurer the balances shown to be due by him to the State in strict accordance with the requirements of the constitution. His balance due to the corporation and the disbursements have been paid with equal promptness and regularity to the proper officers, as his vouchers show. The committee have great pleasure in testifying to the exemplary manner in which the sheriff has discharged his duty, and have afforded them as opportunity of seeing that Mr. Davis has discharged his official trust."

"The committee have the same report to make in regard to the charges against the State's Attorney, Mr. Knott, which are made not only in substance but in entire disregard of the provisions of the constitution. The fees collected from the city of Baltimore are so collected under the provisions and by the directions of the 7th section of article 27 of the code of public general laws, and the fees embraced in them are accounted for by the State's Attorney in his annual report, which is filed with the documents of the constitution already referred to, at article 3, section 12, of the same. The fees of Mr. Knott and his deputy, Mr. Pickney, are fixed by the constitution, which allows \$3,000 to the one and \$1,500 to the other, to be deducted out of the fees received by the state for the representation of the state. The expenses are accounted for in the treasury of the State, his accounts to be first audited by the State Comptroller; and your committee find that Mr. Knott has duly and satisfactorily accounted to the comptroller for all his receipts and expenses, and has remitted to the state Treasurer his balance, for which he has exhibited the proper vouchers. All allowances made to him in account have been so made by the accounting officer of the state, whose official duty it is to examine upon their propriety in conformity with the existing statutory and constitutional provisions."

"The committee have no reason to doubt that they have been discreetly, as well as lawfully made, and it is very obvious that in no event can the state treasurer be the gather or loser by their amount, as the balance in every event belongs to the State." "The accounts and vouchers of E. J. Chastey, the clerk of the Criminal Court, and those of the clerk of the sum, W. L. Sickerin, Esq., which your committee have likewise examined, disclose the same strict and prompt compliance with the constitutional requirement mentioned. The allowances for expenses which have been made by the state comptroller to all the officers named, appear to have been made with a due regard to proper economy, and furnish no foundation whatever for the extravagant misrepresentations of the memorial which is under consideration."

"The committee have not desisted in within their province to go into the inquiry as to whether in the several courts of the city the number of bailiffs employed is precisely that which the lowest scale of economy might suggest. The result of their examination shows that the number of hours per day, during which these offices are occupied is assuredly false, and the committee have found no reason to believe that they are not all properly and sufficiently employed. In the Criminal Court their number is necessarily larger than in the other courts, but the former has both grand and petit juries, for them to attend, and the number of cases tried, and the large number of witnesses and spectators attending the sessions of the court requiring always a large force for the preservation of order and the facilitation of the public business."

"The committee are of opinion that the amount of fees exacted by the several courts must always be to a great extent entrusted to the discretion of judges presiding in the several courts, and although that discretion should be regulated (as your committee believe that it is present) by a due regard to economy, we are satisfied that the court will exercise its power in the discharge of their portion of their business which maintains the dignity of the judicial tribunals, and contributes to the efficient administration of public justice."

George L. Barry,  
E. J. Chastey,

J. A. Davis.

To His Honor Judge Gilman.—We the grand jury beg respectfully to place before you the foregoing report of the special committee appointed by them to investigate the several charges entrusted to them by your Honor, and to say that the results and conclusions reached by the committee have been adopted and adopted by the jury unanimously. Very respectfully,

James S. Watkins, Foreman."

**Repulse by Legislative Convention.—The Nomination**

—The first legislative district republican convention assembled at Eastern Hall, northeast corner of Broadway and Eastern Avenue, last evening, for the purpose of selecting six candidates to represent the district in the House of Delegates, by the repudiation of Capt. James D. Johnson, Dr. Franklin Metzger of the fifth ward, was called to the chair, and Mr. H. G. Pitt, of the fourth ward, appointed secretary.

A committee on credentials and permanent organization was appointed, who retired, and after a brief adjournment, the delegates adjourned as originally elected and entitled to seats.

The committee recommended as permanent officers, Dr. F. Metzger as president; John D. Lowry as vice president, and H. C. Pitt as secretary.

The report of the committee was accepted. On motion, the convention proceeded to ballot for candidates for the House of Delegates, when the following were chosen: Dr. Wm. H. Stimpfle, of the first ward; C. E. Banks, of the second ward; John Henderson, Jr., of the third ward; Dr. John M. Stevenson, of the fifth ward; Robert Reed, of the sixth ward, and Michael Miller, of the seventh ward. The convention then adjourned.

The second legislative district convention assembled at Lechmere Hall, and was organized by calling Mr. Samuel J. K. Haudy to the chair, and appointing Wm. E. Woolley secretary. A committee on credentials and permanent organization was appointed, who retired, and recommended the temporary as the permanent organization.

The convention then proceeded to select a candidate for State Senator, when Joseph H. Meredith, Marcus Benson and George Bushell were named. Mr. E. L. Thomas moved that Mr. Benson be made the unanimous choice of the convention. Wm. H. Stimpfle, of the first ward, was nominated, who said that Mr. Benson was reported to have been connected with the Hon. Thomas Swann in overthrowing the republican party in the State.

The motion of Mr. Stimpfle was withdrawn, when Mr. Perley P. Lovett repudiated Dr. M. D. Weston, declaring him to be a traitor to the republicans, and subsequently the names of Messrs. Johnson and Bushell were withdrawn, when Mr. H. Merdith was unanimously nominated as candidate for the State Senate. The convention then proceeded to nominate candidates for the legislature, with the following result: David Crammer, of Ward, Peter C. Morris, of the 10th ward; James Thompson, 10th ward; David W. Ticey, 12th ward; Wm. W. Simms, 12th ward, and Jacob Faxon, of the 22nd ward. The convention then adjourned.

The delegates to the third legislative district convention assembled last night at the Western Union, and for the purpose of nominating candidates for the legislature. The report was called to order by Benjamin Schenck, upon whose motion John H. Cox, of the fourteenth ward, was selected as chairman, and Col. Wm. L. Shryer as secretary. Upon motion a committee of one from each ward was appointed upon credentials and permanent organization, as follows: the first ward, H. H. White; the second ward, Schenck; 13th, William C. Blame; 10th, William Patterson; 11th, Edward Parks; 15th, Levi Clark.

The committee reported the delegates, as published in the *Star* yesterday, entitled to seats, for permanent organization, and the report was accepted and adopted.

Upon motion the convention went into the nomination of candidates for the legislature, and as each ward was called the delegates placed a candidate in nomination as follows: Thirteenth ward, C. M. Morris; fourteenth, Henry Wetherby; fifteenth, Samuel E. Rice; sixteenth, C. Mordecai Stewart; seventeenth, Wm. H. Weaver; eighteenth, William H. Shryer.

The nominees were then declared the unanimous choice of the convention. The secretary was directed to notify the members of their selection and the convention then adjourned.

**Sword Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regiment, was presented at the residence of Col. Taylor with a handsome silver mounted sword, said to have cost \$300. The sword was presented by Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertainment

was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Second Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Third Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Fourth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Fifth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Sixth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Seventh Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Eighth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Ninth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Tenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Eleventh Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Twelfth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Thirteenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Fourteenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Fifteenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Sixteenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Seventeenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Eighteenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Nineteenth Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Twenty-first Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Twenty-second Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who

had served in the Corps of Troops of the Fifth

Regiment, responded on behalf of the adjutant.

After the presentation a pleasant social entertain-

ment was given by Adjutant G. D. Moore, of the 12th Regt.

and the sword was presented to the Adjutant.

**Twenty-third Presentation.—On Thursday evening**

Adjutant Thomas G. Downey, of the Third Regt.

was presented at the residence of Col.

Col. Taylor on the part of the officers who